

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 250012

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, FR

SUBJECT: KOREA AT 29TH UNGA: PROPOSED FRENCH AMENDMENT

TO FRIENDLY RESOLUTION

REF: USUN 4869

1. FYI. DEPT WELCOMES REPORTED FRENCH INTEREST (REF-TEL) IN SUPPORTING US/ROK RESOLUTION ON KOREAN ITEM AND SHARES USUN'S DESIRE FOR EARLY AND OVERT FRENCH ASSOCIATION WITH OUR RESOLUTION, EITHER AS COSPONSOR OR AS SUPPORTER.

2. WE HAVE TWO RESERVATIONS, HOWEVER, ABOUT ENGAGING IN REDRAFTING EFFORT WITH FRENCH AT THIS TIME. FIRST, WE STRONGLY DOUBT FRENCH WILL COSPONSOR IN ANY EVENT, SINCE TO DO SO WOULD TARNISH SELF-IMAGE AS BROKER BETWEEN EAST
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AND WEST ON ASIAN ISSUES, PARTICULARLY THOSE INVOLVING

PRC. THUS FRENCH VOTE FOR OUR RES SHOULD BE OUR PRACTICAL OBJECTIVE. SECOND, IF THIS ANALYSIS IS CORRECT, WE WOULD WANT TO WEIGH CAREFULLY WHETHER DISCUSSIONS WITH FRENCH (WHICH WE SUSPECT MAY BE PROMPTLY SHARED WITH PRC) WILL HELP OUR OVERALL EFFORT TO WORK OUT ACCEPTABLE ARRANGEMENTS RE UNC IN KOREA AND TO ENHANCE OUR VOTING POSITION IN UNGA.

3. MOREOVER, WE UNDERSTAND EC-9 ASIAN POLITICAL DIRECTORS

ARE MEETING NOVEMBER 15. FRENCH APPROACH MAY THEREFORE BE EFFORT TO OBTAIN CONCESSIONS FROM US OR OTHER CO-SPONSORS TO PREEMPT ANTICIPATED URGINGS FROM OTHER EC MEMBERS TO SUPPORT KOREAN RES IN ITS PRESENT FORM. ON OTHER HAND, WE RECOGNIZE THAT QUITE APART FROM FRENCH INTEREST, SOME ALTERATION OF LANGUAGE ON THIS POINT COULD GAIN VOTING SUPPORT FOR US/ROK IN GA. THUS, WE BELIEVE OUR RESPONSE TO CURRENT FRENCH PROPOSAL SHOULD LEAVE DOOR OPEN FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS LOOKING TOWARD SOME FORM OF FRENCH ASSOCIATION WITH FRIENDLY RESOLUTION, WITHOUT PREMATURELY ABANDONING OUR PRESENT LANGUAGE ON UNC. END FYI.

4. DEPT SUGGESTS USUN THEREFORE DISCUSS PROPOSAL WITH FRENCH ALONG FOLLOWING LINES (WHICH BASED ON PARA 6 REF-TEL) AFTER FIRST CONSULTING WITH ROK, UK, AND NETHERLANDS UN DELS AND OTHER CLOSE COSPONSORS AS NECESSARY:

A. AS FRENCH AWARE, WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY STATED OUR WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS TO UN COMMAND SO LONG AS BOTH SIDES ACKNOWLEDGE IN SOME FORM CONTINUING VALIDITY OF ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AND RELATED ARMISTICE MACHINERY. TO ABOLISH UNC WITHOUT SUCH ASSURANCES WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE DESTABILIZING. OTHER SIDE IS FULLY AND AUTHORITATIVELY AWARE OF OUR IDEAS ON THIS SUBJECT.

B. OUR WILLINGNESS TO INSERT SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO "FUTURE OF UN COMMAND" IN FRIENDLY DRAFT RESOLUTION IS NEW ELEMENT IN THIS YEAR'S DRAFT, REFLECTING SITUATION CONFIDENTIAL

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IN PARA 4A ABOVE. WE ARE FULLY CONFIDENT THIS RESOLUTION WILL COMMAND SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY IN THE UNGA.

C. REFERENCE TO "DISSOLUTION OF UN COMMAND" WOULD TEND TO PREJUDGE OUTCOME ON UN COMMAND WITHOUT ASSURING EQUIVALENT GESTURE ON CONTINUING VALIDITY OF ARMISTICE AGREEMENT FROM DPRK/RPC, WHICH EQUALLY IMPORTANT TO US. (THIS IS SO DESPITE LANGUAGE IN OPERATIVE PARA 2

OF FRIENDLY RESOLUTION WHICH MERELY EXPRESSES HOPE UNSC WILL BEAR IN MIND THE NEED TO ENSURE CONTINUING ADHERENCE TO THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT).

D. FOR THESE REASONS, WE COULD CONSIDER REVISING DRAFT RES BY SUBSTITUTING "FUTURE OF UNC" BY "ALTERNATIVES TO THE UNC" IF SUCH CHANGE WOULD PERSUADE FRANCE TO CO-SPONSOR AMENDED RESOLUTION OR MAKE WIDELY KNOWN ITS SUPPORT FOR IT. FYI. IN CASE FRENCH FIRMLY DECLINE THIS ALTERNATIVE WORDING, WE WOULD BE PREPARED IF CLOSE

COSPONSORS AGREE, TO HAVE USUN INDICATE READINESS TO RECOMMEND AD REFERENDUM TO DEPARTMENT PHRASE "INCLUDING TERMINATION OF THE UN COMMAND IN CONJUNCTION WITH ARRANGEMENTS TO MAINTAIN ARMISTICE AGREEMENT" IF FRENCH WOULD COSPONSOR OR IF IN MISSION'S VIEW SUCH REVISION WOULD NOTICEABLY INCREASE SUPPORT FOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION OR VOTES AGAINST HOSTILE RES. END FYI.

5. IF FRENCH PROVE UNWILLING TO PROCEED ALONG THESE LINES, WE AGREE WITH MISSION THAT WE SHOULD POLITELY DECLINE TO ACCEPT THEIR AMENDMENT ON GROUNDS OF PARAS 4A-4C ABOVE AND THAT SUCH CHANGE WOULD ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO MODIFY OUR RESOLUTION, POSSIBLY IN UNHELPFUL DIRECTION. YOU SHOULD ALSO POINT OUT TO FRENCH THAT WE HAVE ALREADY MADE CLEAR OUR WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER TERMINATION OF UNC WITH APPROPRIATE ALTERNATIVE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS. SINCE FRIENDLY TEXT ALREADY SUPPORTED BY VIRTUALLY ALL FRIENDLY ASIANS AND EUROPEANS, WE REMAIN VERY HOPEFUL THAT FRENCH CAN IN FINAL ANALYSIS VOTE IN FAVOR OF PRESENT TEXT. KISSINGER

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